

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

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AMAZON EPIC

Young explorer makes a 3500-mile journey down the mighty river

Having helped John Brown to discover the origins of the Amazon last year, Sebastian Snow resolved to follow that river from source to sea. In the CN last January Mr. Brown described his friend's start and prospects. Here, with the aid of notes received from Sebastian Snow (who is due back in England next week), he tells the rest of the story. It is a dramatic story of human doggedness.

SEBASTIAN SNOW has done it! The first source-to-mouth journey down the mighty Amazon, 3500 miles in all, has been completed.

Snow, who is only 24, was ridiculed by many people when he first mentioned the idea of going down the great river, using a balsa raft to get through the whirlpools, the rapids, and the deep and gloomy canyons. He made no boasts, but set about the task with quiet thoroughness.

He collected all the books and maps of the area that he could find. He talked with missionaries who had worked among the savage tribes of the Upper Amazon. He laid in supplies of compressed food and anti-malaria drugs. He studied Spanish and the Indian languages used by river tribes. He kept fit by long walks and mountaineering.

When he tried to get a companion to go with him on the trip he found that his friends sheered off when he described the route. In various South American cities last year, too, he got into touch with people who were supposed to be experts on the river, and eager to explore it; but again without success.

There were stories of evil rays, from rocks, that made people ill; of Indians who used curare-tipped arrows that paralysed when they wounded; of pirates in canoes who would murder a man for a pair of trousers; of poisonous snakes that issued from the rock walls at night; of pumas that could smell a man half a mile away, and would not hesitate to attack; of 29-foot-long anacondas on the main river that could crush a canoe and its occupants; of piranha fish that attacked swimmers with their razor teeth; and of bats that sucked a sleeper's blood.

There were stories, too, of Indian tribes who would pretend to be friendly, but would poison a guest with manioc juice and club him to death while he lay helpless. Worst of all, there was the unceasing threat of malaria from the hordes of mosquitoes in the jungles.

Before returning to England I played a small part in the prepara-

tions for the trip, getting for Snow a new anti-malaria drug called Daraprin, the result of years of research by British chemists, and obtaining, with some difficulty, all the permits from the governments of the countries through which he would travel.

With a young Peruvian named Pachioni, Snow set off a year ago from the source of the Amazon, 16,000 feet up in the Central Andes of Peru. This is a wild area of giant black mountains and glaciers.

200 MILES ON MULES

The Marañon, as the Amazon is called up there, is a narrow stream, rushing down over sharp boulders towards the north and the jungle. It is impossible to sail any kind of canoe or raft, and the two men rode on mules for the first 200 miles, following the line of the river, which was sometimes close at hand, sometimes 1000 feet below them.

One night Pachioni was bitten by a fer-de-lance, a poisonous little yellow snake. Snow killed the snake, and gave first aid to his friend, who was soon in a high fever. Pachioni recovered, but felt ill, and made his way back alone towards the south.

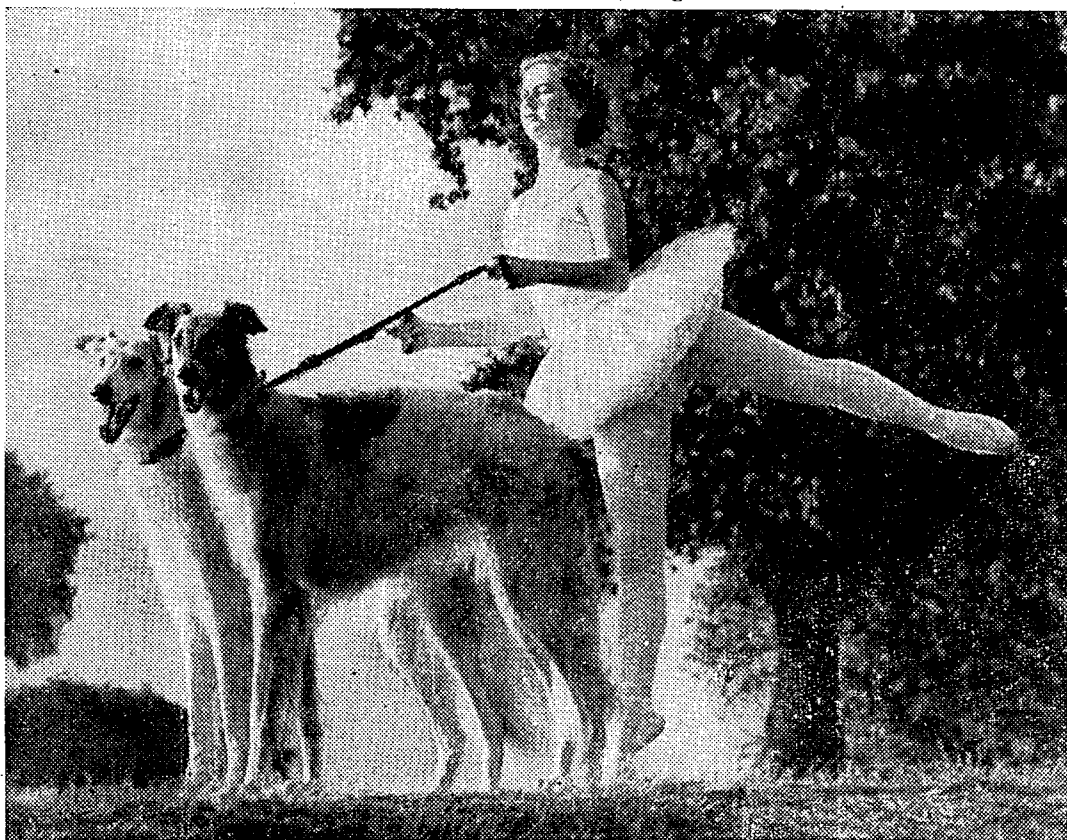
Snow was now on his own. Selling his mule at an Indian settlement, he resumed his way on foot. He would have kept the mule, but it had already crashed down a precipice, and it was a miracle that it was still able to walk. A little farther on Snow got a canoe, and eventually reached a hacienda, or farm, not far from the river, where he arranged to stay until he felt fit enough to go on.

THEN THE RAINS CAME

But what he had dreaded now happened. The rainy season started early. The rain then comes down in what seem to be solid sheets; it lasts for six months, and makes progress impossible. No canoe or raft could live in the boiling cauldron of the Marañon; it would be buffeted about like a feather and crushed against the rock walls.

Snow had to wait at the farm, near Cajabamba, spending the time as best he could. He made friends with the local Indians, who took him hunting whenever the rain stopped for a few hours. The Indians could run for hours without getting out of breath, while

Down in the forest



Snow was often panting, for they were still high up in the mountains.

As time went by he became fitter, and therefore restless, wanting to move on. His friends on the farm collected fresh supplies for him, and built a balsa raft for the next stage of the journey. This raft was similar to that used on the famous Kon-Tiki expedition, the Indian knowledge of balsa rafts having been handed down from distant ages.

LOOKING FOR HELP

At last the rain ceased, and Snow set off with an Indian called Caramillo; but after a number of narrow squeaks in the rapids the raft had to be abandoned on the third day. Snow and Caramillo wandered about in the mountains for a fortnight looking for help in order to build a new raft.

Every day there were new adventures, but Snow never lost his good spirits, and tried to keep his comrade merry. Managing to get some balsa logs, they built a new raft. It was ready by the middle of July, and they set off again, having a nice meal of rice and green bananas before they started.

On this raft the voyagers shot through the canyons and over the rapids, tearing along at 12 knots at times, and occasionally having to lash themselves to the balsa to guard against the waves that swept over them.

It was like a prolonged ride on a giant switchback, and as soon as they had recovered from one fright they were tearing towards a new danger. As night fell they

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Janet Smith, a 16-year-old ballet student, helps to make a charming picture as she poses in a quiet glade in Epping Forest with two champion Borzoi hounds.

WALKING IS HER WORK

Miss Margaret Robertshaw, who works for a rubber firm in Liverpool, has an unusual job. She is a footwear tester and every day has to tramp some 12 miles, either through the city streets or across country. She has been walking at work for 20 years and has just completed 50,000 miles.

The distance is measured by a pedometer attached to her right knee. On her return she makes a report on the comfort and wear of her shoes or boots. Her information is used by designers of footwear.

PERCY THE TRUANT

Percy, the pelican which escaped from Whipsnade Zoo in 1948 and settled in Gloucester, may be spending the summer months in Northumberland. A farmer near Haydon Bridge reports that he has seen a bird which looks very much like Percy in his fields.

Last summer the pelican made his home in a tree in the grounds of the vicarage at Chatton and could not be caught. Six weeks ago it was seen near the River Till at Wooperton, to the alarm of the local fishermen; pelicans are voracious fish-eaters.

GIRL IN A THOUSAND

Few people have ever deserved a holiday abroad more than 16-year-old Annis Burbridge, a farmer's daughter of Abinger Common, Surrey, who has just returned from Belgium with a small party of Red Cross cadets.

She has been bravely coping with a difficult life since her mother died last January. Her elder sister had to go away not long afterwards and Annis, with only a daily woman to help, became housekeeper at the farmhouse for her busy father and her two younger sisters.

On top of that she was head girl of her school at Gomshall and had the General Certificate examination looming ahead of her. There was her Red Cross work as well, but she faced it all with cheery determination. With so many burdens on her young shoulders it is not surprising that art was the only exam subject she passed in.

Annis holds the highest proficiency award a Red Cross cadet can win, and she was one of only ten Red Cross cadets chosen from all Britain to go to Belgium at the invitation of the Belgian Red Cross Society.

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JAPAN UNDER THE WING OF THE WEST

By the C.N. Diplomatic Correspondent

GENERAL ELECTIONS are expected to be held quite soon in Japan—perhaps this winter. Their outcome, and the way this young democracy conducts them, will be as revealing to Western observers as tests on a promising but sometimes surprising class at school can be to a visiting examiner.

Indeed, the Japanese are pupils of the Western Allies—and in particular of America, which is still their legal guardian and protector.

Japan's bad wartime record made it seem unlikely that she would ever take kindly to the ways of democracy. Yet she seemed to change overnight, and has been showing all signs of willingness to discard the despotic form of government which made her a military danger to other countries.

How sincerely will she keep to the reforms she accepted? This adopted child among the nations had to be entirely re-educated, and so far she has passed most of her tests with credit—but not all.

APT PUPILS

Most eastern peoples doggedly resist any changes to the customs and habits they have followed for hundreds of years, but the Japanese are exceptional in always being eager to try new ways and new ideas. This aptitude has made them good pupils of the West. They have evolved a democratic constitution on Western lines, with freedom of speech—unknown before—and free and secret voting at elections.

At their first General Election under the new system, in 1947, the Japanese used their unaccustomed freedom with enthusiasm; men and women alike crowded to the polling stations and voted into power a political party of sound democratic ideals.

Earlier this year Japan's good progress resulted in her attainment of independence under the Peace Treaty signed at San Francisco. Since then Japan has shown some determination to keep the benefits gained from her tuition by the West. Her people work hard and willingly, realising that every year is bringing them more prosperity.

HELP STILL NEEDED

At the same time there are also signs that the old autocratic form of government would soon return to take charge if given the slightest opportunity.

Japanese national pride is hurt because America, in her rôle of guardian, still has military bases and soldiers in the country. Nevertheless, moderate-thinking Japanese realise that as a nation they are still far from strong enough to protect themselves without some help; and most of the people dread the possibility of being involved in another war.

They also realise that they are still gaining substantially by following Western ways, so they usually treat foreigners from the West with politeness and consideration.

The Japanese had used many European and American ideas and methods before the war, but in the past six years this trend has increased amazingly. If we walked down the main streets of Tokyo today we could easily imagine it

to be a European city of the most modern kind. The men wear western clothes, and the women and girls like frocks that look as if they had come from the salons of Paris. In these smart streets the traditional kimono is rarely seen.

At home, however, the western clothes are put carefully on hangers in the wardrobes, and families don the kimono, the symbol of ancient Japanese culture, before they sit down to their favourite dishes of fish and rice.

This retention of the sort of homelife they have always known is significant. It suggests that Japan does not mean to abandon entirely her old customs and habits. No one would wish her to do that, because the Japanese civilisation, cradled in a land of sunshine, holds a charm and colour unknown in the West. It would be a loss to the whole world if the Japanese were really being persuaded to discard it completely. That, however, is not the idea. All that is asked is that they should not return to the harsh cruelty of an autocratic regime.

Just how set they are in the ways of democracy will be seen when they hold their first General Election as an independent nation.

AMAZON EPIC

Continued from page 1

managed to get on a sandbank, and slept like logs, careless of snakes or pumas or bats.

After more thrilling escapes the raft emerged from a canyon near some Indians who were camping at the side of the river. The Indians were surprised at the arrival of strangers, and told Caramillo he and the white man were lunatics. Snow felt like agreeing with him, for just before that the raft had been tearing along, standing almost straight up out of the water, and behaving as if it were about to take off.

SEVEN-MILE-LONG CANYON

Caramillo was told that no Indian would trust himself to the river on this area, and that certain death lay ahead, in the mighty Pongo de Manseriche, the gateway to the jungle.

Snow had been warned so many times about this mighty canyon, seven miles long and 3000 feet deep, that he felt he knew the place already. To add to their anxiety, it started to rain again as the young men neared the gloomy cavern of the Pongo.

After a terrific fight to escape a giant whirlpool in this dark cleft through the Andes, the balsa eventually bumped and scraped its way through. Before them lay a mighty forest, stretching for thousands of miles. It was the Amazon jungle! The struggle to

Young soldiers and their studies

Young men called up for National Service can continue their education or training for a job while in the Army; how they can do it is described in the recently-published pamphlet, Education during National Service (Stationery Office, 3d.).

The Army runs 60 correspondence courses which cover the theoretical knowledge required for City and Guilds examinations. Men serving in the United Kingdom may attend evening classes at the technical institutes of local authorities, and the Army's educational centres provide instruction in science subjects.

There are also higher education centres with a science wing giving instruction up to the first year of university standard.

The Army, too, has some 180 trades in which the industrial skills of civil life can be acquired.

DEVELOPING THE CAMEROONS

The corporation established by the Nigerian Government to develop 250,000 acres of land in the Cameroons has made a profit of over £185,000 in its first five years.

The money will be spent on further schemes and amenities for the people. Schools, sports and football grounds have already been built, and some 56 football teams now play in league matches.

The chief exports of the Cameroons are bananas, palm oil, palm kernels, and rubber.

reach Borja and the lowlands was won! It was noticeable at once how much hotter it was than the day before. They were almost down to sea level. How still it was after the roar of the waters!

But the dangers were not yet over. They were in an area inhabited by savage tribes. Some Huambisa Indians, who have a very bad reputation, did come alongside in a canoe, but Snow got a new volunteer from among them. Another Indian joined Snow when he met a group of pirates farther down the river. Eight days later Snow and his raft were in Iquitos, the jungle city and the start of down-river navigation.

JOURNEY'S END

At first no one would believe his story. He was in danger of being arrested, but the officials in the city had heard about the trip, and he was given a meal and a bath. He could not sleep because of the great heat, and was glad to get away on a launch going down-river towards the Atlantic and home.

Fifteen days later Sebastian Snow reached the Brazilian port of Para, at the mouth of the Amazon, and a little later boarded the British steamer Hilary, which is due at Liverpool on September 11.

This 24-year-old explorer had defied the mighty Amazon, and had discovered many of its secrets.

News from Everywhere

WEALTH FROM WASTE

An American factory is recovering 200,000 tons of pulverised fuel every year from anthracite silt; this was once thrown away.

Mr. Thomas Hayhow of Bagshot, Surrey, flew his Auster Aiglet on the 790-mile journey to Madrid in 6 hours 56 minutes, setting up his 27th light-plane record.

A mystery "well-wisher" has sent £41 in donations to a tenants' association formed on the L.C.C.'s Tabard Estate at the Borough, London.

Tasmania has exported over three million cases of apples and pears to Europe this season—500,000 more than last season.

ADDED ATTRACTION

Hastings night fishermen are planning to fix underwater flood-lighting to the town pier to attract fish.

Firemen used 1000 gallons of cider to put out a fire at a farm near Quimper in Brittany.

Britain now has over 13,550,000 sheep.

Mr. Augustus Greenslade, aged 84, of Exeter, passed the General Certificate examination in French after studying at evening classes all last winter.

A coal-mine believed to date from the 17th century has been found near Stevenston, Ayrshire.

NEW INSECTS

Over 100 previously unknown insects, and 120 species believed to have been extinct, have been discovered by entomologists in Kruger National Park, South Africa.

A message in a bottle thrown into the sea at Folkestone took just over a fortnight to cross the North Sea. It landed near Zandvoort, Holland.

There were 3000 entries from 52 countries in the International Sculpture Competition for a work entitled "The Unknown Political Prisoner."

Wilkieston, in Midlothian, has a new bowling green for blind ex-Servicemen.

SMITHS TO THE FORE

All five competitions at a dog show at Long Eaton, Derbyshire, were won by people named Smith; the prize money was awarded by Mr. A. F. Smith.

Mr. Adrian Conan Doyle is collaborating in a new series of Sherlock Holmes stories. He is a son of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

A summer theatre on two barges is travelling along the Rhine giving performances to riverside audiences in Switzerland, France, Germany, the Netherlands, and Belgium.

A medical service for air-liner passengers is now provided in Rome and Milan. A doctor gives advice by radio to machines in the air.

HUMBER HOP-OVER

The Ministry of Civil Aviation are planning a helicopter service over the Humber between Hull and Grimsby.

Some 800 British Railway stations and depots are being cleaned and painted at a cost of nearly £1,000,000—over 50 per cent more than was spent last year.

Flower beds depicting nursery rhymes and characters have been laid out in a Grimsby park.

The estate of Pitmedden, Udnay, Aberdeenshire, has been handed to the National Trust for Scotland. An example of a late 17th-century garden unique in the north-east of Scotland, it contains a sundial dating from 1675.

OUR BUSY CANALS

British canals carried 12 million tons of freight last year—the highest amount since the war. Some 3700 permits were issued for canal pleasure craft.

The New Zealand Army has increased its rations by 10 per cent to cater for the big appetites of recruits aged between 18 and 20.

Albert Mansbridge, C.H., who recently died at the age of 77, will ever be remembered as the founder of the Workers' Educational Association, the National Central Library, and the Seafarers' Education Service.

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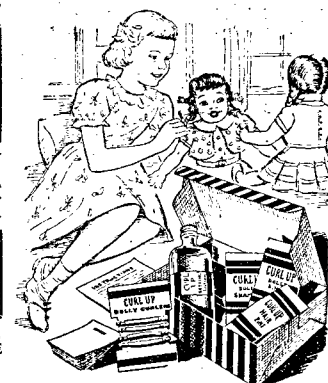
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The Children's Newspaper, September 6, 1952

GARDENS OF FRIENDSHIP

This summer 300 folk dancers from seven countries, have presented their traditional dances in the lovely International Gardens of Friendship just outside Chicago.

The idea of the gardens began 20 years ago at the Chicago World's Fair when three brothers called Stauffer proposed it and asked Paderewski to help. The great musician and statesman was enthusiastic and was the first to subscribe. Today there is a bust of him in the Polish garden.

In the grounds there are gardens of every country with flowers blooming all the summer. A Theatre of Nations seats 5000 people and its stage is set on an island in a lake, with a wild-bird sanctuary round it. Near the Lake of Peace there is a smaller theatre set deep in a belt of trees.

Some of the most famous singers in the world have said that this is the finest setting for their songs they know.

GREENFINGERS MEET IN LONDON

Gardeners everywhere should be interested in the International Horticultural Congress which opens in London on September 8.

Green-fingered experts from 27 countries will read 150 papers on their art of creating lovely and fruitful gardens, and telling also of the latest experiments on the control of pests and diseases in plants.

An American expert, Professor Tukey, is to talk on the application of radio-active materials to dormant fruit trees, and another delegate is to reveal how molybdenum, which is used for hardening steel, can also be made nutritive to plants.

SUPERSONIC SAFETY TEST

The London Midland region of British Railways are using a super-sonic "flaw detector." This sends vibrations from end to end of a steel axle at the rate of 2½ million a second, and then shows up on a cathode ray tube any echoes which are caused by a flaw in the metal.

So far well over 100,000 tests have been made by this method and every one has proved satisfactory.

TV dresses



Television announcers Sylvia Peters (on the left) and Mary Malcolm try on their new evening gowns specially designed for the TV cameras.



PLANE OF MERCY

Only four miles off the coast of New South Wales is Montague Island, a rocky islet half a mile long which has only a lighthouse-keeper and a few other inhabitants.

Owing to storms, the transport of food and other necessities to this islet was impossible by sea. Supplies ran out, and for ten days the marooned islanders had no vegetables or fresh food.

In response to an S.O.S., a Royal Australian Navy plane parachuted six large containers of food; and so accurately was the job done that they all landed within 50 yards of the lighthouse and the cottages.

As the mercy plane dropped its vital cargo, a small group of islanders, including two children, shouted and waved their thanks to the pilot.

14-YEAR-OLD COMPOSER

Edwin Roxburgh, a choirboy of Liverpool Cathedral, is only 14, but already he has composed a prelude for the piano, a nocturne, and a polonaise.

Edwin plays the piano, the violin, and the recorder, but as his ambition is to become an orchestra conductor he wishes to learn something about woodwind instruments, such as the oboe.

This is an expensive instrument, so Liverpool's education department, impressed with Edwin's abilities, have bought one, and Edwin's father will be able to hire it for him.

WATCH ON THE RHINE

Thanks to the International Labour Organisation (I.L.O.), a better life looms ahead for 45,000 people living on the 7700 freighters, passenger boats, tugs, and lighters on the Rhine.

Because they are constantly on the move between Switzerland, Germany, France, Belgium, and Holland, they have hitherto been ineligible for the social services of any particular country.

Thanks to I.L.O. efforts, the five countries concerned have signed an agreement entitling the boatmen and their families to social security and medical care wherever they may be.

In Richmond Park

After 100 years the post-horn of the "Red Rover" was recently heard again in Richmond Park when the famous four-in-hand travelled the 85-mile journey from London to Southampton.

HELPING UNKNOWN AUTHORS

The second-hand bookstalls on the banks of the Seine have long been a great attraction to tourists in Paris. Now their owners have combined business with kindness and have instituted an unusual annual prize for little-known writers.

Called Le Prix Littéraire des Bouquinistes (second-hand book-sellers), this is to be awarded to a worthy book in French which has escaped the notice of critics and book-selection committees, and has found its way to the second-hand markets.

It is hoped that the competition will attract the attention of readers in general, and of book-hunters on the quays of the Seine in particular. The winning author will be one who has not already received a literary prize.

REGIMENTS IN THE ROCK

Carvings of British regimental badges in the face of a rock at Cherat, on the North-West Frontier, Pakistan, are being renovated by the authorities there.

The carvings, all completed before the First World War, include replicas of such badges as Invicta, the White Horse of the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment.

The War Office has conveyed to Pakistan the thanks of the regiments concerned.

FOOD BUDGETS

A recent United Nations report shows the proportion of family incomes spent on food in different countries. The inhabitants of Lahore in Pakistan spent the least on luxuries, 61 per cent of their income being needed for food.

Next comes France with 58 per cent, followed by the Netherlands with 41 per cent, Britain with 40 per cent, Norway with 39 per cent, and Denmark and Canada with 33 per cent.

AMERICAN COIN OF 1652

One of the earliest American coins has been dug up in a garden in Newtownards, County Down, Ireland.

It is a silver shilling piece minted in 1652 by John Hull, who in that year was asked by the Massachusetts colonial authorities to set up a private mint. The colony was established only 22 years earlier.

The coin is about the size of our halfpenny and has a picture of trees stamped on one side.

CHILDREN'S ART EXHIBITION

Sixteen-year-old Brian Cooper, of North London, is the first boy to obtain a senior award for work sent to the National Exhibition of Children's Art, which opens on September 6 at the Royal Institute Galleries in Piccadilly, London. He has won a £250 Training Award given by the Sunday Pictorial, the organisers of this exhibition.

A second grant of the same value has been won by a 16-year-old girl, Una Collins of Chislehurst and Sidcup County and Technical School. She only recently started on an art course.

Some 300 pictures and 200 pieces of pottery and modelling by schoolchildren will be on view, as well as friezes executed by groups of children illustrating the theme, Life in our Town or Village.

The exhibition will be in London until September 29; after that it goes to Glasgow, Stoke-on-Trent, Northampton, Southampton, and Bristol.

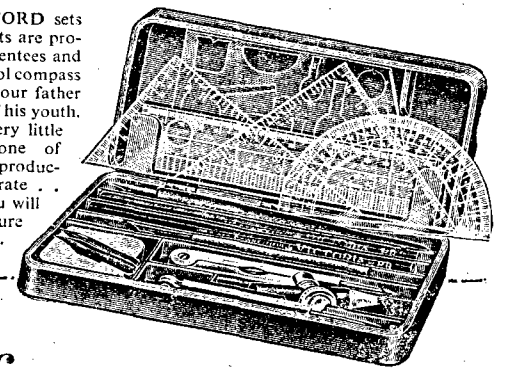
AIRWOMAN AS MINISTER OF JUSTICE

A woman recently sat in the Chilean cabinet for the first time in the history of her country. She was Mrs. Adriana Olguin de Baltra, Minister of Justice in President Gabriel Gonzalez Videla's new non-political cabinet.

A lawyer by profession, Mrs. de Baltra is also a civil aviator and not long ago flew across the Andes in a two-seater plane.

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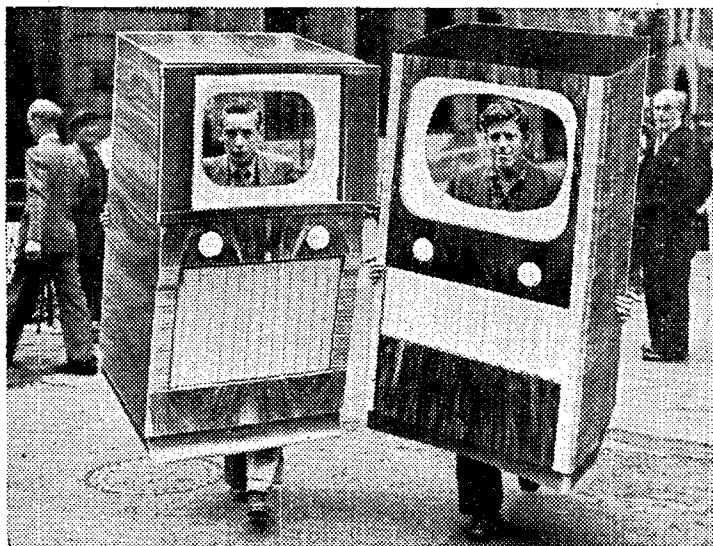
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Seeing through it

Londoners were surprised to see these two television sets with a face on each screen taking a stroll down Fleet Street. But they were dummy sets on their way to be used for display.

BY CANOE TO A JAMBOREE

A party of Tanganyika Scouts recently travelled over 100 miles across Lake Nyasa in a 30-foot, hollowed-out tree trunk to reach the Central African Scouting Jamboree.

Packed into this home-made craft were three Scouts, six paddlers, and a houseboy—plus three extra passengers picked up en route—together with all their kit!

Strong winds and storms ruffling

the lake made them a day late, and their hearts were in their mouths once, for in the far distance they spotted a giant waterspout.

Each night these bold canoeists had to seek shelter at little villages on the shore. From the northern tip of the lake they completed their arduous trip by journeying 450 miles by ox-wagon and lorry.

Many other troops had tough journeys from remote tropical areas to Nkana, in the Northern Rhodesian copperbelt, where over 2000 native Scouts made a great success of the first Jamboree of its kind ever held in this region.

NEW EXPERIENCES

Some of these native Scouts had never before seen trains or even cars. To these lads, who have their troop meetings between tribal mud huts in trackless bush or sun-scorched veld, the Jamboree was not only a gathering of fellow-Scouts, but a marvellous holiday crammed with countless new experiences.

It was certainly worth all their intense efforts to raise money by giving concerts in their villages, carving wooden ornaments and beads, and weaving baskets and rugs—the native equivalent, in fact, of our “bob-a-job” campaign!

Not far from the humming pit-shafts of the great copper mines, the Scouts revelled in all that a Jamboree means; they had soccer and cricket matches, boxing contests, plays, sing-songs, concerts, and competitions for useful gadgets and clean camp-sites.

TRIBAL DANCES

Bemba troops from Northern Rhodesia gave the tribal lion dance; others from the Belgian Congo performed in colourful head-dresses. Dusk falls early throughout the year in Central Africa, and the daily flag-lowering ceremony was impressive, with the sweet-smelling smoke of wood-fires curling into the clear sky.

The Deputy Chief Scout, Sir John Shea, attended the Jamboree, and the Governor of Northern Rhodesia, Sir Gilbert Rennie, also camped with the boys.

First free library is 100

England's first free public library was opened at Manchester on September 6, 1852—just 100 years ago.

To the opening ceremony 100 years ago came many famous men, including the best-selling novelists Dickens, Thackeray, and Bulwer-Lytton. And not the least honoured on the platform was Edward Edwards, to whose enthusiasm was largely due the passing of William Ewart's Public Libraries Act two years earlier.

Edwards was now the first librarian of Manchester, having won his spurs as one of the original compilers of the catalogue of books in the British Museum. He had also gathered together a mass of information about foreign libraries which he published later in his *Memoirs of Libraries*.

Edwards remained at Manchester for only seven years, but some of the special services that city offers its readers today were envisaged by him in those early days. Instead of the mere handful of books originally given free by benevolent people, Manchester Public Libraries now issue nearly six million books yearly.

ANNIE LAURIE IN YUGOSLAVIA

A party of Watford schoolboys who have been touring Europe in a lorry were surprised to find that the British song, Annie Laurie, was popular with the Yugoslavs, who encored the boys every time they sang it. Another favourite was *It's a long way to Tipperary*.

ANOTHER POLE STAR IS ON THE WAY

By the CN Astronomer

THAT most useful of the stars, Polaris, the Pole Star, will not always serve man's needs as the lodestar of the Heavens to guide him on his travels, because it will not continue to be quite close to the point known as the Celestial North Pole, around which all the stellar host appears to revolve.

Today the Pole Star appears to be always in the same place relative to terrestrial objects and places, and, as this is almost due north, it helps man to find his way about. Being of second magnitude it is a good luminary and is easily found because various groups of stars point to it, the best-known being the two bright stars Alpha and Beta of the Plough, in Ursa Major. Actually, the Pole Star is about a degree, or twice the apparent width of the Full Moon, away from the precise position of the Celestial North Pole to which the axis of the Earth points.

Now, Polaris is coming a little nearer to this precise point each year, and in less than a couple of centuries will appear very close to it; but after this the Celestial North Pole will begin to leave Polaris behind. The gap will widen and there will be a large area of apparently blank sky with nothing perceptible to indicate the position to which the Earth's axis is pointing and therefore true North; and then its singular trek will continue farther from Polaris.

In the accompanying star-map the celestial path taken from 1952 to 3952 by this ever-changing “sign-post”—the true north point in the heavens—is indicated in relation to the few prominent stars

in that region. The path is across the constellation of Cepheus, described in the CN of August 23; and illustrated by a star-map which will help us to identify Beta and Iota, for they appear in both maps.

It can be seen that the true “Pole Star” about 3952 will be Gamma Cephei. Although it will not appear quite as bright as the present Polaris, it will be just as easily found by means of the pointing stars Alpha and Beta of Plough. By then, however, Polaris will need to have its name changed.

This is a striking example of the changing locality of everything in the Heavens relative to those on Earth, necessitating a continual change of measurements. It is due to the continual shifting of the Earth's axis to a fresh angle. In consequence of this change, stars which now never rise above our southern horizon will one day come into view; others now visible will not rise above the horizon.

The cause of all this is that the Earth is not well balanced as a true sphere should be, and that it has acquired this periodic change in the position of its Polar Axis very much as a rapidly rotating peg-top will when, being top-heavy, its axis of rotation does not keep to one angle. The Earth also is not a perfect sphere but an oblate-spheroid; it is somewhat lop-sided as well, with an equatorial diameter which is not the same in all directions but averages 7926.7 miles, compared with a polar diameter averaging 7900.02 miles.

There is consequently a considerable equatorial bulge which the gravitational pull of both Sun and Moon takes advantage of to pull the Earth over very slightly. This produces a complete cycle in the position of the polar axis in the course of about 25,800 years. So after the lapse of this period Polaris should be back appearing almost where it is now and near enough to be again the Pole Star of the sky. G. F. M.

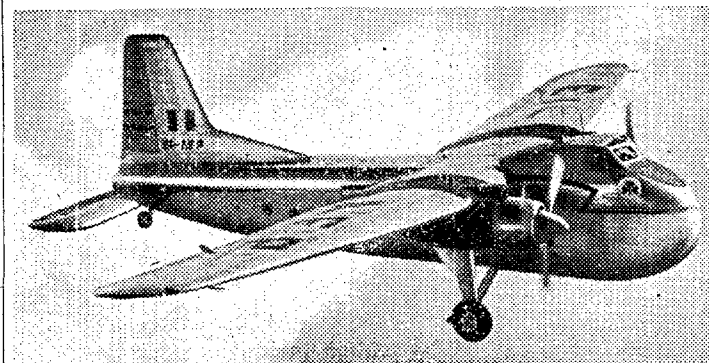
NO MORE TRAINS TO THAXTED

The Essex village of Thaxted is to lose its little train.

For 39 years the Thaxted Flier, as the people affectionately know it, has puffed busily with its two coaches between this village and Elsenham on the main line six miles away. Now this branch line is to be closed and after September 13 the train will puff no more.

The stationmaster and guard, Mr. Tom Buck, who has been with the line almost since it was opened in 1913, is to retire. And the people of Thaxted, Cutler's Green, Sibley's, Henham, and Mill road will in future travel by bus.

PLANES FOR THE SPOTTER'S NOTEBOOK



22. The Bristol Freighter

As a true “tramp of the air,” the sturdy Bristol Freighter is second to none. Designed from the outset with an eye on utility and adaptability in the widest meaning of the terms, its versatility would in any case be difficult to beat, and aircraft of this type are now in use on every continent.

Since 1948 Bristol Freighters flying with the Silver City air ferry have flown tens of thousands of cars across the Channel to France; Australian National Airways Freighters have flown chilled carcasses by the thousands on Australia's Air Beef Scheme; others have now firmly established an air-bridge over Cook Strait, joining the North and South Islands of New Zealand.

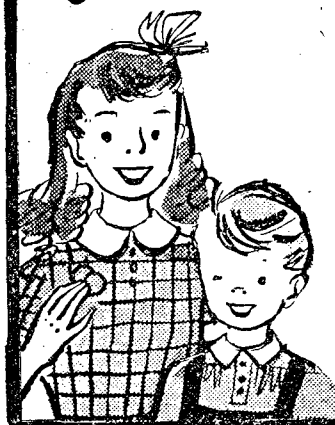
During the course of a few weeks Freighters from this country have flown varied cargoes from the Continent: vegetables, furniture, racehorses, motor-cars, heavy machinery, a helicopter, cattle, even a small boat.

Cargo is loaded into the Freighter through the two huge “clam shell” doors which form the nose. On the Channel air ferry two cars or a number of bicycles or motorcycles, can be carried in the forward compartment, and 12 passengers can be seated in the cabin at the rear.

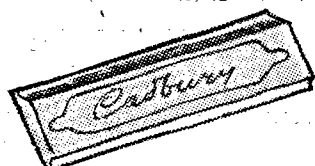
Fitted with 2000 h.p. Bristol Hercules 734 radials, it has a cruising speed of 166 m.p.h. at 5000 feet.

The Bristol Freighter has a span of 108 feet, and is 68 feet 4 inches long.

Please, I want Cadburys!



Yes, they both want Cadburys Milk Chocolate, because they love its beautiful creamy taste. And Cadburys make milk chocolate bars which fit in well with young people's pocket money. So when you call in for your weekly ration, just say ‘I want Cadburys, please!’



The Children's Newspaper, September 6, 1952

GATEWAYS TO SUCCESS

1. The Royal Academy of Dramatic Art

How is an actor trained? There are various schools of Drama throughout the country, but I went along to the most famous of all—the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art—to find out.

R.A.D.A., as it is invariably called, will soon be celebrating its 50 years' jubilee, and it has, of course, many famous names on its long list of students—names famous on stage, screen, and radio, such as Robert Atkins, Gladys Young, Mervyn Johns, Joan Harben, Patricia Roc, Richard Attenborough, Anne Crawford, and Margaret Lockwood.

The school is in Gower Street, not far from Euston Station and close to the main buildings of London University; in fact, the entrance to the larger of its two theatres (now being rebuilt as the result of a direct hit during air raids) is in Malet Street, facing the University. But the main entrance to the school is in Gower Street and it may be recognised by the carved figures over the door.

Inside the entrance hall almost the first thing you notice is the timetable on the wall; it is in very bright colours, and draws attention to the fact that students are expected to work really hard.

Classrooms are upstairs, and the big wardrobe in the vaults below; and to one side is the office of Sir Kenneth Barnes, the wise and kindly principal who has been at the helm here for over 40 years.

The job of R.A.D.A. is to teach actors to act, and that means voice

We begin here a new series of articles describing some of the many institutions which offer special training to young people, giving them every opportunity to make a success of their chosen career.

production, diction, phonetics, the study of movement through mime, the technique of sound broadcasting, stage-management, fencing, and dancing. There are also lectures on the history and development of drama.

A course lasts two years and is divided into six terms. But, half-way through, every student has to pass a test to make sure that proper progress is being made. Otherwise there is no further room for him; so many others are trying to get in that only those who are likely to make good can be kept on for the full time.

There are usually about 280 students at R.A.D.A., rather more than half of them girls. They come from every walk of life, many of them with grants from their local education authority. There are also scholarships obtainable, giving free tuition for all, or part, of the course, and a number of money prizes of varying amounts.

One particularly interesting example is that of the Kinsmen Trust Scholarships. These are intended, preferably, for children of Canadian and American parents who entertained British children

evacuated across the Atlantic during the last war. Americans say there is nothing on their side which gives the training that R.A.D.A. does.

Apart from visitors from the U.S.A. and the Commonwealth countries, it is quite normal for the school to have at least ten nations represented on its list of students.

AND how does a student get in to R.A.D.A.?

One way is to take a preliminary course at P.A.R.A.D.A.—the Preparatory Academy of the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, which is in Shepherd's Hill, Highgate. This caters for the would-be actor who wants a trial period before deciding on a full course of dramatic training. For children it provides a course which includes general education, so that they can take the School Leaving Certificate when they are 16.

Whether you start this way or want to go straight to R.A.D.A., there is first of all an Entrance Test to be passed. Tests are held before the beginning of each term, that is to say at the beginning of August, at the end of December, and during April; and a Scholarship Competition is held a few days later for those who have passed the test with enough high marks. To be accepted, students must be over 16.

BECAUSE of the number wanting to get in, it is absolutely necessary to weed out, right at the start, those who have not enough natural talent to make the hard training worth while to themselves and the school. The judges at the test have to decide this from hearing each candidate recite one short piece out of a set of nine or ten which are printed and sent to each applicant beforehand, and one chosen independently by the candidate.

I visited a classroom—a bare, whitewashed room with chairs along the back—where the students sat to watch with the instructor a little way out in front with a notebook. They were watching the other end of the room where a young girl was propped up on three hard chairs, wrapped in a blanket, while a young man leaning over her was desperately trying to remember some lines out of *The Barretts of Wimpole Street*. Then he had to walk across as if to throw a letter on the fire.

"No—you really have to throw it on the fire," said the teacher quietly. And it had to be done again.

In another room I listened to students reading passages from Shakespeare for training in good diction. Each word had to be spoken not merely correctly but with the right stress, so that the voice helped, and did not hinder, the meaning. Then I went down to the theatre, in full costume, of a two-act play.

SOME people, especially parents, think it is rather hard that R.A.D.A. should be in London.



Many of our leading actors and actresses have passed through this entrance to R.A.D.A.



First-term students in a Shakespeare class

For those with homes in the north or west, for instance, this means the expense of living in the capital to add to the fees. But R.A.D.A. is in London because that city is the centre of theatrical activity in this country. Not only are there more theatres and film studios in London than in any other city; the theatrical agents are all in London, too.

Students must spend quite a lot of time towards the end of their course calling on these agents, or they will never even hear of the opportunities they seek. Every effort is made to keep students informed of opportunities open to them, and managers and "talent-spotters" attend the Final Division performances.

I WAS told that the most dangerous fault in a student is vanity; no one can absorb instruction if their mind is full of self-esteem. Willingness to learn and to take criticism and bear up under disappointment are necessary. There is no calling which needs more self-discipline.

The staff know all about this—none better—and the best advice and help are given, especially when some promising boy or girl receives a letter from an agent with the offer of a contract.

There will always be glamour attached to life on the stage. But at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art they teach you that also attached to it is a lot of That Thing called Work. A. V. I.



Every actor and actress must know how to apply make-up



A special ballet class under instruction



The wardrobe mistress adds the finishing touch

Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House
Whitefriars · London · E.C.4

SEPTEMBER 6 1952

ONE VOICE

AN inspiring call to the nations of the world has been made by Protestant, Roman Catholic, and Jewish leaders.

They point out that a system of law among the nations can only be created if the greater part of mankind can be persuaded to recognise a fundamental moral law which cannot be disobeyed without penalty.

This moral law affirms the sacredness of human personality and the interdependence of all human beings, respect for truth, and the obligations of the plighted word.

It is rooted in the belief that man is the creation of one Supreme Power, the Author and Judge of his being.

On this basis a system of international order should be built up that will ensure that physical force will only be used between nations in the service of the whole community of nations. There would be no place in such a world order for a government which rejects any objective moral standard and the principle of fraternity.

The leaders who have issued the statement belong to the Religious Bodies Consultative Committee. It is indeed heartening to hear people of widely-differing convictions speaking with one voice on a subject so vital to us all.

UNITED IN DISASTER

It was at Lynmouth that Shelley looked out to sea and wrote:
*When those far clouds of feathery gold,
Shaded with deepest purple, gleam
Like islands on a dark blue sea.*

Alas! Lynmouth, that has been called "a dream of loveliness," is now a ruin.

Britain's climate is temperate, and unheavals such as the one which swept away this little holiday town are fortunately rare.

The whole nation was stunned by the news of the catastrophe, but when the full measure of the tragedy became apparent, the people of Britain rallied speedily to the help of the stricken townsmen and holiday-makers.

Divided among ourselves we often are in times of peace, but when serious trouble visits any part of our island home our essential unity is revealed.

Fresh inspiration

A NEW enthusiasm among young people for a United Europe was spoken of recently by M. Spaak, former Prime Minister of Belgium.

Addressing young delegates from 14 countries at the European Youth Conference at Edinburgh, he said that formerly youth had seemed to him rather sceptical and undecided regarding the European idea.

"But all of a sudden a true rebirth seems to be beginning to take shape," he went on. "Here are a few who want to turn aside from the beaten tracks, shake up the old men of international politics, and attempt something new and great.

"If they succeed, not only will Europe be saved, but the world will be deeply changed. To make a new Europe is the only means of solving the problems set by our times."

Two champions

WHEN Marjorie Jackson arrived at Sydney on her return from her triumphs at Helsinki, she made it one of her first duties to go and see a blinded and crippled boy named George Lane. He is a patient at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Camperdown, and has started a fund to help polio victims which has already passed the £1500 mark.

When the fastest woman sprinter in the world bent over his bed, she stroked his brow, and told him who she was.

"Congratulations, Marjorie," he said. "You're a champion."

"And I think you are the bravest boy in the world," replied this modest girl with a big heart, and a kind thought for those in adversity.

WILLING HELPERS

KENT and Surrey cadets in camp at Shorncliffe have been helping the Ministry of Food in tests for feeding large numbers of people in an emergency. The cadets uncomplainingly ate the meals provided.

A young friend of ours who heard of these experiments thinks they should be carried out on a wider scale. He himself (for purely scientific reasons, of course) would be quite willing to take part in such tests as "exhaustion point in the consumption of fancy cakes and doughnuts by a normal boy with a healthy appetite." He is also willing to help authorities to find out "if it is possible for a human being to support life for 24 hours on an exclusive diet of ice-cream."

We fear his services are not likely to be called on.

In their own good time

THERE were no "deportment" tests for cats at the recent Crystal Cat Club's show at Olympia.

This test, to which dogs readily submit, consists of being led about before the judges to show off grace in movement.

It was banned at Olympia because at a previous show in London ten cats obstinately refused to be paraded about on the end of a lead. They just lay down on the platform and refused to move, in spite of being coaxed, flattered, and having toy mice temptingly released in front of them.

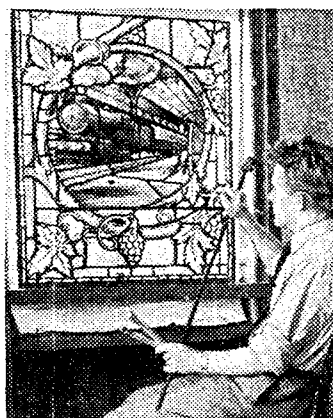
Cats are among the most graceful animals in the world, but highly independent; they will show off the delicate sinuosity of their movements in their own good time—and not on the end of a bit of leather, like contemptible, clumsy canines!

THE FOUNDATION

The health of a people is really the foundation upon which all their happiness, all their powers as a State depend.

Benjamin Disraeli

CHURCH WINDOW



This stained-glass window showing the Cornish Riviera Express leaving Paddington Station, London, is to be installed in St. James's Church, Paddington. For over a century the vicars of the church have been honorary chaplains to the station.

Thirty Years Ago

OUR Hungarian correspondent gives some amazing instances of how the coinage of his country has lost its value. There a hundred heller make one crown.

Before the war a kilogram of bread cost six heller. Now the same amount costs 96 crowns, or 9600 heller. Fat which cost 170 heller costs 600 crowns. Meat that could be bought for 70 heller costs 350 crowns. Coffee is 160 times as dear as it was in the national coinage. Sugar is 575 times as dear. Potatoes are 800 times as dear. And even salt is 250 times as dear.

A Hungarian crown was formerly worth tenpence in English money. Now two Hungarian postcards cost five crowns, and a letter stamp five crowns. And prices are constantly rising as the national coinage diminishes in value.

From the Children's Newspaper, September 9, 1922

JUST AN IDEA

As François Guizot, the historian, wrote: Do not be afraid of enthusiasm. You can do nothing effectually without it.

THINGS SAID

THERE is a school of thought which says "what was good enough for my father is good enough for me." I have no quarrel with this sentiment at all, so long as it is not made an excuse for stagnation, frustration, and inefficiency.

The Duke of Edinburgh

FAR too many pedestrians seem to regard the zebra crossing as their piece of the world and to step onto it without warning of the approaching lorry driver or motorist.

Provost Hamilton A. Watters, at Stirling

MY people were head hunters before the English taught us that there are better things to do than behead our neighbours. We are loyal to our Rajah Queen, under whom we live in peace and plenty.

Tama Weng Ajang, a chief of Sarawak

PERSONALLY I like empty halls; I always think the music sounds better.

Sir Thomas Beecham

WE like to feel that the barriers of race, of religion, of tongue, and ideology have been broken down under the inspiration of the universal language of the arts.

Lord Provost of Edinburgh

IN THE COUNTRY

SEPTEMBER is a month of singular charm. On our walks afield we note a different atmosphere, and there is an increasing richness of colour.

In September Nature seems to halt halfway between summer and autumn. She has fulfilled her task and seems to be resting, her mission accomplished.

There is a brief interval of calm—of days of serenity with all the land flooded in soft golden light at noontide, and with lovely sunsets at eventide. In Keats's lovely ode this is the *Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness; Close-bosom, friend of the maturing sun; Conspiring with him how to load and bless With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eaves run.*

Under the Editor's Table

In a ten-minute journey a resident of Sideup walks past five clocks. Passes the time.

Some men try their level best to be funny. And find it uphill work.

Improvements to a certain country police station may cost £500. Wonderful what can be got for a few coppers!

Every succeeding generation is criticised by the last. Who thinks it will not succeed.

PETER PUCK
WANTS TO
KNOW

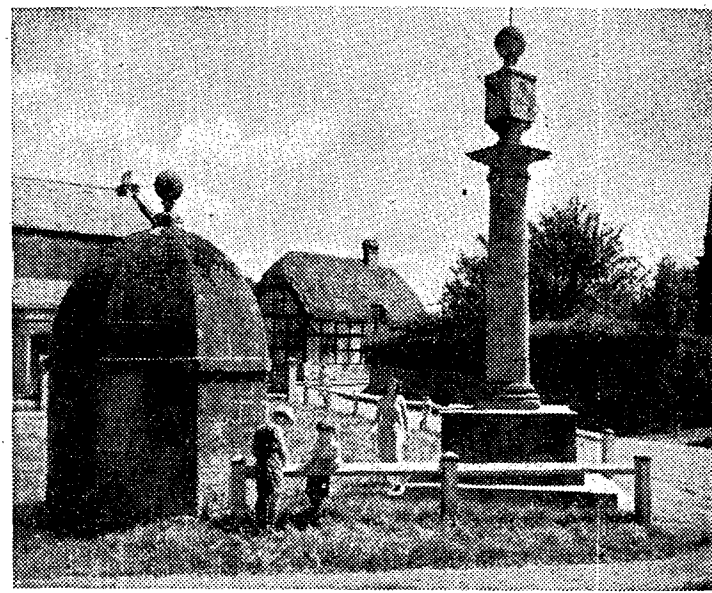
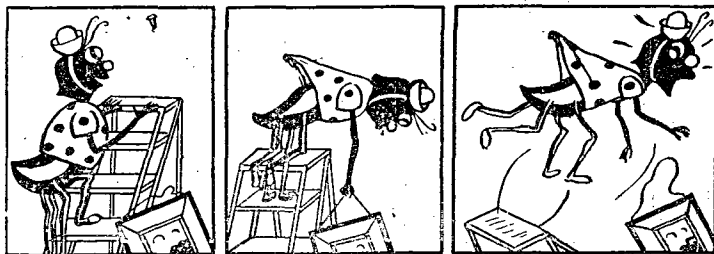
If window-cleaners
know their business
inside out

Seventeen is a sweet age. But does not get a bigger sweet ration.

A boy says he hopes to take up medicine. Better than taking it down.



BILLY BEETLE



OUR HOMELAND

The lock-up and old market cross at Steeple Ashton, Wiltshire

The Children's Newspaper, September 6, 1952

7

THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE'S ONLY REINDEER

THE reindeer has spread its domains during the last 60 years. Originating in Lapland and Arctic Russia, it is today to be found also in great numbers in Arctic Canada, Alaska, Greenland, Iceland, Spitzbergen, Siberia, and northwards to within 450 miles of the North Pole itself.

There are even a few reindeer in Scotland; but in the whole southern half of the world they are to be seen only in South Georgia, the mountainous glacial island, far away in the South Atlantic, at the gate of the Antarctic.

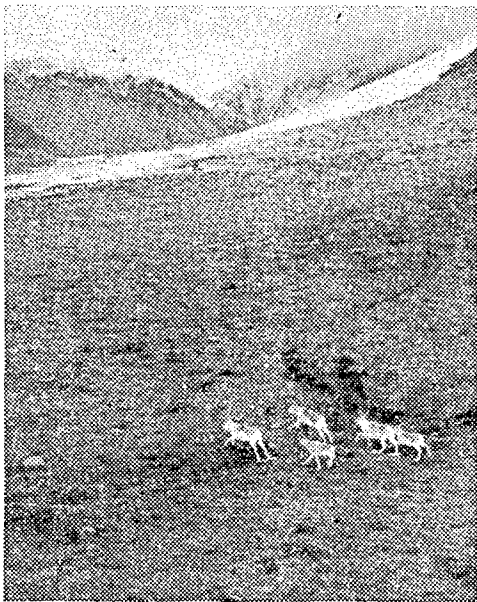
The reindeer have followed the spread of civilisation into the polar regions; as Man has penetrated the snowy lands he has taken reindeer with him. So it was, in the case of the South Georgia animals.

These animals were originally landed on the rocky island by the crew of a Norwegian whaler, the idea being that they would multiply and provide a change of fresh meat for the men of the shore whaler stations.

The argument was that the herd would multiply quickly because there were no wolves or other rapacious animals on South Georgia to deplete their numbers.

The idea was a good one, and the argument was sound; but they did not work out in favour of the whalers. For the herd moved away from the coast into the rugged interior, so that the coastal dwellers seldom have so much as a glimpse of the animals that were originally landed to provide them with meat!

The Antarctic reindeer is now a small animal—a trim, slender creature, smaller by far than its robust cousin of the Arctic; it has become almost an inferior variety, made smaller by long years of hardship and hunger among the almost naked scree and slopes of the Far South.



Reindeer in the waste lands of South Georgia

There is no evidence to show how big are the reindeer herds of South Georgia; but no matter the size of the herds or the smallness of the animals, they are the only reindeer to be found throughout the whole wide Southern Hemisphere.

4000-YEAR-OLD HOME IN WALES

Excavations of a Bronze Age burial cairn on Stormy Down in the Vale of Glamorgan have revealed a far older structure—the earliest-known house in Wales. The remains of this house, 18 feet long and 10 wide, were found underneath the cairn.

Estimated by archaeologists of the National Museum of Wales to be 4000 years old, the house was built of stone slabs of sandstone, quarried and brought to the site from some distance away. Several pieces of Neolithic pottery were also found near the foundations.

NEW USE FOR OLD HOUSES

Britain is not the only country to find new uses for its large old country houses. Big castles in Germany are becoming youth hostels and conference centres.

One large mansion in the Ruhr valley at Schwerte is serving a triple purpose. It has been handed over by its owner to the Church of Westphalia to serve mine-owners, miners, and trade union officials as a meeting-place where they can discuss such questions as the bearing of Christianity on industrial affairs.

Young Mr. Klaus von Bismarck, who represented Germany in the Berlin Olympics, is in charge of this part of the house.

In another part of the house is a hostel for 30 refugee apprentices who are learning trades in the busy Ruhr factories, and are cared for by a young American minister and his wife. In a third section is a hostel for weekend parties of women and girls from the Ruhr towns.

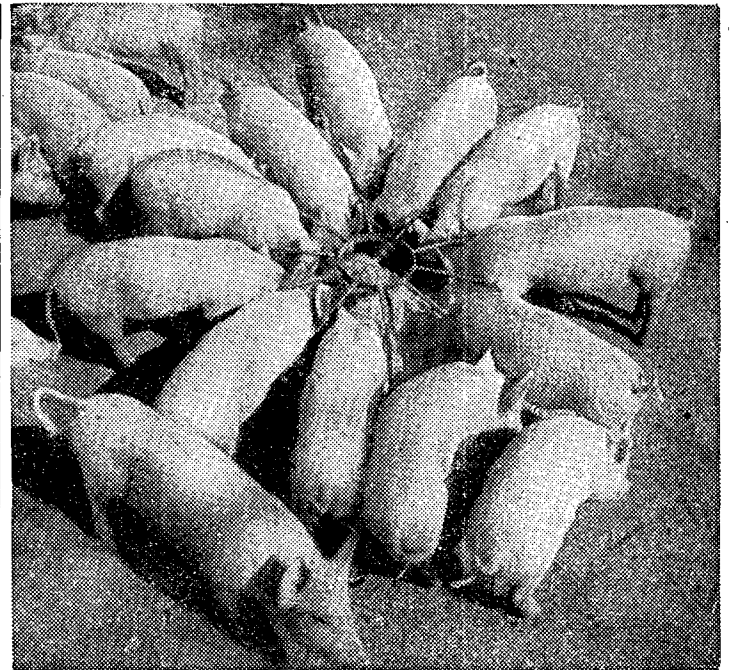
Although the stucco of the house is peeling, and a coat of paint is wanted everywhere, the old house is lively with life and is probably doing better service than ever before.

LONG MEMORIES

Scientists surveying the remote islands of the Solomons group in the Pacific have discovered men who can, as it were, remember for 150 years.

On the atoll of Sikaiana, which is 100 miles east of Malaita, the most populous island of the group, there are no books, writing materials, or paper. The island depends on its memory and the oldest men can go back seven generations, having memorised the birthdays of the children, the parents, and the ancestors of every inhabitant. There are no registers or certificates of birth or baptism on the island.

The memories of the old men themselves are the registers, and their absorption in the past makes them the chief obstacle to the new ideas in cooking, food production, and so on which the visiting scientists seek to introduce.



What a lot of pigs!

When it is swill-time, as in this picture taken on a Cumberland farm, it is clearly a case of "First come, first served." The forlorn pig in the foreground is learning the hard way; if he wants a good meal in the future, he must remember to get a move on when the gong sounds.

SOMERSET SCHOOL SELLS PRECIOUS DOCUMENT TO AUSTRALIA

The ancient King's School at Bruton, in Somerset, has sold to the Australian Government for £12,500 a great treasure which was discovered some years ago among the school archives. It is a 13th-century copy of the Confirmation of Magna Carta, made in 1297 by Edward, Prince of Wales, on behalf of his father, King Edward I, who at that time was away in Ghent.

This confirmation is considered of equal importance to Magna Carta itself, for it contained new clauses safeguarding the people against arbitrary taxation. Thus the English people established the right to decide themselves what taxation should be imposed.

This copy of the document was originally sent to the Sheriff of Surrey for proclamation, and about 16 years ago turned up among the archives of King's School. How it got there is a mystery, but as it has no historical connection with the school, the Governors decided to

sell it and use the money for new school buildings.

So this precious document, one of the foundations of British democracy, is to go to the Commonwealth National Library of Australia in Canberra.

The British Museum and the Guildhall in the City of London also have copies of the Confirmation of Magna Carta.

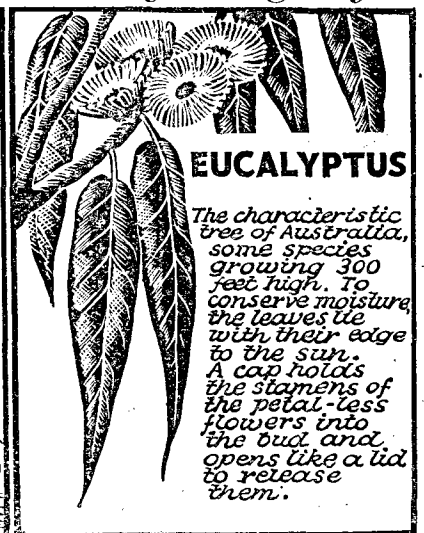
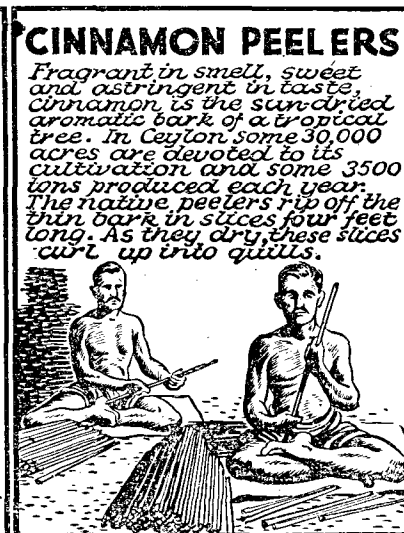
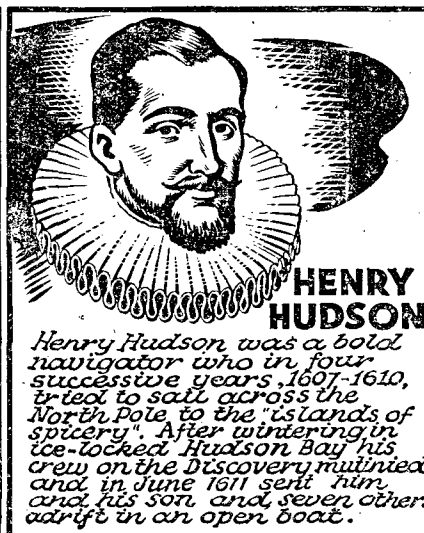
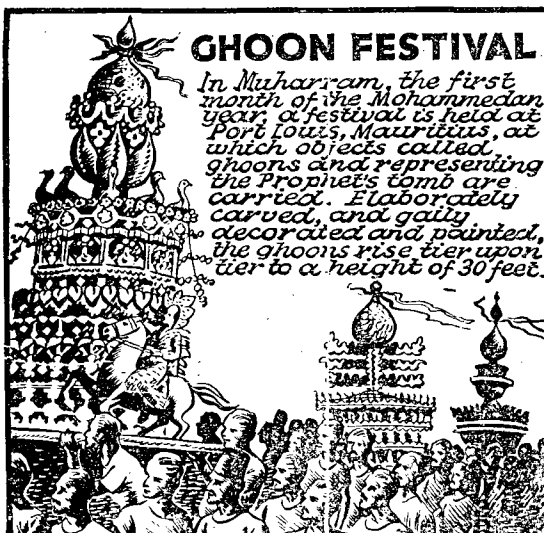
HE WANTS TO START A ZOO

Twenty-year-old Clinton Harry Keeling, of Chesterfield, has quite a menagerie in his back garden—a monkey, two owls, a badger, a number of reptiles, Indian squirrels, and a giant tortoise.

Now, anxious to share this collection with others, he wants the corporation of his town to start a zoological garden as part of their Coronation celebrations. His plan is now being considered.

Empire Mosaic—15

by Ridgway



HOW TO START A LIBRARY

Unnoticed among the other students attending a course of study at the London University School of Librarianship in 1948 was a Greek lady, Mrs. Peppa Xeflounda.

Fired by her work there, and by a tour of libraries in Britain, France, and Scandinavia, she returned to her home on the little Greek island of Aegina determined to start a public library.

When she announced her plan there were offers of help from the mayor and from local school-teachers and tradespeople. Then she was also offered a half-finished building which had been started by the Germans during the occupation.

The Greek Ministry of Education paid for the roof, windows, and doors. Old bookcases discovered in the cellars of the town hall were renovated by a local carpenter and brought into service.

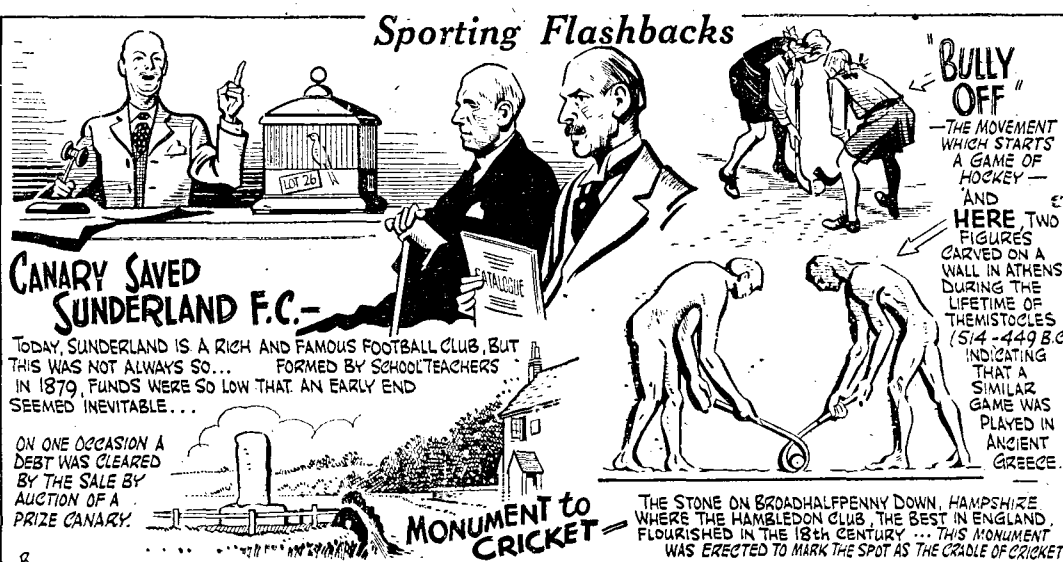
Books began to arrive from many quarters. Greek publishers and writers gave some. Through the good offices of Unesco came gifts of books from the New York Public Library, the Lord Mayor of London, and other quarters.

Under the direction of Mrs. Xeflounda, enthusiastic boys and girls labelled and numbered the books.

Now Mrs. Xeflounda's library has become the cultural and educational centre of the island, and adult classes in English and other subjects are held there. Its founder has every reason to be proud.

AMERICANS ON THE MOVE

A recent investigation shows that nearly 28 million Americans move each year—usually to take advantage of economic opportunities. About 28 per cent of all persons between the ages of 18 and 34 made a residential move during the course of the survey, compared with only 10 per cent of the "over 45s."



MUNITION DUMP BECOMES HAVEN OF PEACE

In the heart of a great German forest men are at present building a city of peace out of what was once a vast munition camp for storing poison gas. The barracks, huts, and stores at Espelkamp (writes a CN correspondent in Germany) are now becoming a centre of life and hope for refugees.

The romantic story of the transformation of Espelkamp goes back to a prisoner-of-war camp in Scotland, where a few German prisoners dreamed of how they would start life afresh after the war. Encouraged by a Swedish chaplain, they planned to secure a disused German army camp.

Eventually, through the good offices of the British military authorities, they were given the use of the abandoned Espelkamp, on the road between Lubbecke and Herford in Western Germany.

The returned German prisoners began to plan a city which should be a place of work and life for free men. Soon they were joined by scores of refugees trekking westwards from Poland.

German-speaking people, these refugees form the heart of a new community which is rising in the forest, gradually creating a new city of hope in Germany. Espelkamp spreads over a wide area and already 3000 people are living there.

At the centre of the camp is the church built out of the old community hall of the munition workers. It is a gift from the Church of Sweden. In the church house is a library Unesco has given, for Espelkamp wants to keep up its international links.

HANDSOME FLATS

A visitor walking through the forest comes upon some handsome blocks of flats with red roofs and white walls. Each refugee family has three rooms and a kitchen. There are small houses, too, with little gardens being created out of the virgin forest.

Espelkamp's sports ground is a huge circular area marked out as a stadium-to-be. Its swimming-bath is already being used.

Long, straight roads are thrust-

ing through the pines, and a little shop here and there looks like a lonely outpost.

Many of the old munition buildings are being used where possible, but Espelkamp is proud of some new ones, too.

One of them is the school, a beautiful light building with plenty of room for extension. Some day Espelkamp will have 10,000 people—possibly even more.

Another home-school is for 40 boys who missed their elementary education because their parents were trekking westward as refugees. They come from many cities in Germany, and are looked after by a Dutch pastor and his wife.

More than 20 small factories in wood, rubber, and light metals have been erected on sites in the forest, and they pay good wages to the workers. All the furniture of the new homes is made on the spot.

Amidst all the misery and despair which the refugee problem brought to Germany, the new town is a beacon of hope.

TOO OFTEN TO THE WELL

The well of a 13th-century house was discovered in Canterbury recently, and when the water had been pumped out the excavators found no fewer than 50 earthenware water pitchers, as well as the broken remains of other kitchen crockery.

There must have been some careless people in this house 700 years ago. One theory is that the rope or string with which they let the pitchers down the well was always breaking or coming untied. Certainly, year after year, as in the old proverb, the pitcher went too often to the well.

Some of the pitchers which have come to light are painted with green and yellow stripes; all are believed to have been made at a kiln at Tyler Hill, close to Canterbury.

The well seems also to have been used as a dustbin. Bits of 13th-century leather shoes were found, together with a leather strap with bronze fittings, a chopper handle, and pieces of cloth that had not disintegrated after lying under water for seven centuries.

Truth lies at the bottom of a well, said a philosopher; the truth at the bottom of this one is that there have always been people who will not put things in the proper place.

ADOPTING A DOG

More than 500 townspeople have adopted country sheepdogs through a scheme run by the Canine Defence League. The original idea came from a holiday-maker who began to send food parcels to a sheepdog he had seen during his holiday.

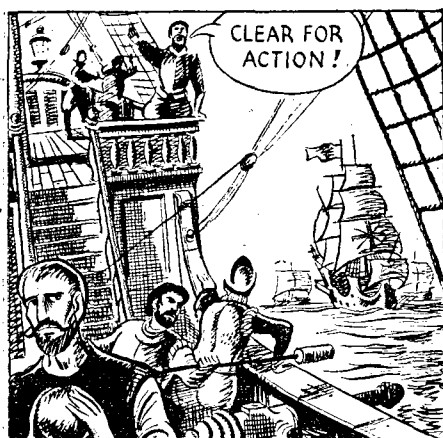
Many of those who have adopted dogs are kept informed by the shepherd about the animal's activities. Others often travel many miles to see the dogs they have befriended.

WESTWARD HO! Charles Kingsley's Great Elizabethan Yarn, Told in Pictures (4)

Amyas Leigh and his brother Frank had sailed to La Guayra in the good ship *Rose*, hoping to find Rose Salterne there and to take her home with them. She had been persuaded by Don Guzman, when he was a prisoner-

of-war at Bideford, to run away with him, and now he had been made Governor of this town. At night Frank and Amyas went stealthily to the Governor's house and spoke to Rose who, though she feared the Inquisition,

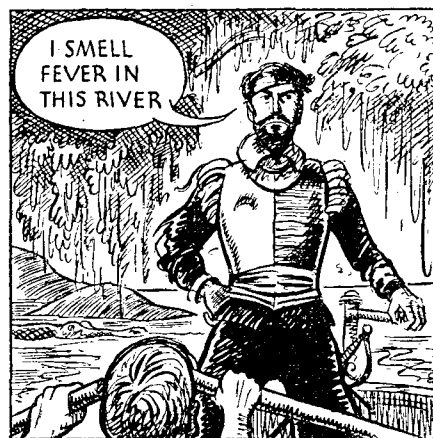
refused to leave her husband. Then Amyas and Frank were discovered by the Negro guards, and had to retreat hastily, leaving Rose behind. Frank was knocked out by a stone and Amyas carried him. Then he too was hit.



Amyas's men were unable to save Frank, but they hauled Amyas into the boat and pulled out to the *Rose*. Bitter were Amyas's thoughts at the failure of his mission, and the loss of his brother, a prisoner, in danger of the Inquisition. Then three Spanish ships were sighted pursuing the *Rose*, a sailing galleon and two galleys rowed by slaves. Amyas's spirits revived at the prospect of a desperate fight—and revenge.



The *Rose*'s men boarded a galley and freed her slaves—among them nine English prisoners. The freed slaves then attacked the second galley. Next the sailing ship smashed the *Rose*'s foremast and grappled. Repeatedly the Spaniards tried to board but were driven back. At last the Spanish vessel began to sink and the English sailors cut the grappling ropes just in time to avoid being dragged down with her.



The *Rose* was badly holed and needed immediate repairs ashore. They found a river-mouth and sailed in. Amyas explored the river in a small boat and found it a slimy, unhealthy place. That night some of the men went down with fever. Amyas believed the swampy air was the cause. The ship could not be repaired if all the men became sick, but if she were taken to sea again she would certainly sink. What was to be done?



Amyas persuaded the men that the only thing to do was to abandon the ship and move to higher ground, where the sick could recover. He suggested that later they might capture the rich town of St. Yago and, perhaps, another ship. The crew carried their gear to a small plateau, and built a stockade in case the Spaniards attacked them before they were ready to move on through the mountains.

How will these Englishmen fare in the South American wilderness? See next week's instalment

Thrilling new serial by a famous author

Cross-Channel Quest

BY GARRY HOGG

1. Adventure begins

THE last time my guardian, Bruce Halliday, had come to collect me at end of term it had been in a green Lagonda. This time it was a dark red Healey. The engine was running as I dashed down the school steps, with my small suitcase in my hand. Some chap or other called out from an upstairs window: "Lucky blighter, Conway!" but I had no time to look round and see who it was. It does not do to keep Bruce waiting! I nipped across the few yards of gravel and tumbled into the red leather bucket-seat beside him.

"Gosh!" I said. "Super car!"

It was, too. Long and low, and streamlined like a greyhound. The hood was down, the windscreen tilted back, air resistance cut to a minimum. I had hardly dropped into my seat before Bruce flicked into second gear, and we were off in a wide semicircle, the gravel spurting up behind our rear wheels, as we headed off down the school drive.

He snicked into third, then into top, and we approached the main gates at a speed that made old Parkinson, the porter, who was just coming up on his bicycle, wobble and step sideways onto the grass verge. Then Bruce snicked back into third, braked, looked round—and we were out on the main road.

Back into top gear, and already the speedometer needle was climbing to 40, to 50, to 60 m.p.h. Once he leaned out on one side till his head was clear of the windscreen, and the smoke from his big pipe was snatched from the bowl by the wind.

"BEST I've ever had, Lance," he said, speaking for the first time, when he put his pipe into the cubby-hole in front of him. "She'll do 90. Reached the 100 mark yesterday, on a good stretch of straight." He touched the speedometer dial and I saw that it calibrated up to 120 m.p.h.

We ran into a built-up area, and hummed through it with the needle exactly on 30; then, when we came to the de-limiting sign, he put his foot down gently but steadily, and the needle climbed again till it reached 70, and stayed there, rock steady, for the next 20 miles.

"Where are we going?" I asked, after a bit. I felt somehow, though I couldn't have said just why, that this wasn't an ordinary end-of-term run home.

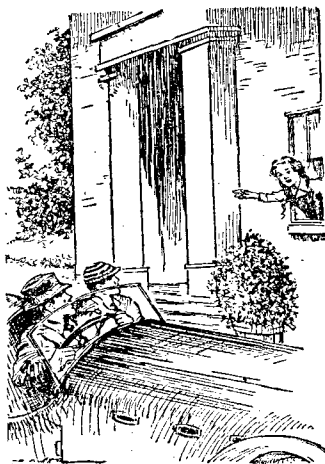
"Home to Nessa," he grunted. And then: "How's your French, by the way?"

"Not too bad," I said. "I'm usually in the first three or four. Why?"

But he did not answer, and I knew better than to press him. Nessa, by the way, is my sister. Her real name is Vanessa—quite a pretty name, actually—but everyone always calls her Nessa. Or, if they are in a hurry, just Ness.

She is nearly a year younger than me, and a good sport. Our parents are out in the Far East at present, so we are living with our guardian till they come home again.

I AM never very sure what Bruce does. As a matter of fact, I do not think he has an actual job, like in an office, or bank. He is an expert on finding out about things. People consult him. They are always phoning to him from Government departments and places like that. He will be called up at midnight and leave within ten minutes for some outlandish spot—probably in a specially chartered plane. And he will return a week or a month later, with a quiet



Bruce and Lance arrive home

smile on his face and the look of someone who has seen a tough assignment through satisfactorily—except from the point of view of the people he has been after, of course!

I do not think there is a single corner of the world he has not been to, and some of them quite a number of times. The walls of two rooms in his house are lined to the ceiling with books, and he has a colossal collection of large-scale maps of every country, large and small, in the world. He will spend whole evenings with a pile

of these maps, mysteriously jotting down notes in a shorthand he says no one but himself can read.

I knew better than to ask him anything more just then. "Clam" would not be a bad middle name for him; it is just about impossible to get anything out of him unless he wants to reveal it—which is probably why he is told so many important secrets. Even Nessa cannot wheedle him—except occasionally!

I THOUGHT he might tell me something over lunch, but he did not. We had tomato soup, then a plateful of jolly good ham and masses of chips for me, and salad for him. And then a whacking great slab of fruit pie with something on it that I thought was cream, but which he called tooth-paste and left on the side of his plate. Then we had cheese and cracker biscuits—and it was not the sort of cheese they give us at school, either! And after that he had a pot of coffee, and I had an ice with chocolate sauce poured over it, and another glass of pineapple squash.

He frowned at this and warned me that I would be sick; and that if I was sick in the Healey he would not take me—and then he aggravatingly broke off again just when I thought he was going to say something interesting.

"Come on, Lance," he said, smiting me on the back. "Last lap. Nessa's standing on one leg, waiting for us, I'll be bound!"

Soon after we started again, he pulled out of his pocket an envelope and passed it across to me. "Take a look at my Rogues Gallery," he said. "Memorise 'em. You know the road home from here, anyway, so you can occupy yourself more profitably that way than gaping at the landscape or collecting car numbers!"

I felt my back press into the seat, and the muscles of my neck stiffen as I tried to hold my head from being jerked into the back of the car; once again he was accelerating like wildfire. We settled down to a steady 70, and I was able to relax. I pulled out a handful of postcard-size photographs from the envelope which, I noticed, had been registered and also carried the words "On Her Majesty's Service" across the top. There were half a dozen or so, and a more ordinary-looking bunch of head-and-shoulders you could hardly imagine. If these were a Rogues Gallery, then there was something other than their faces which made them into rogues!

ON the back of each card there was some print, and I read each of them after staring hard at the photograph first. One read: "A. Central European extraction. Age about 55. Height about 5 foot 6. Very broad shoulders. Neck short and thick. Heavy build. Clean-shaven but blue-

Continue on page 10



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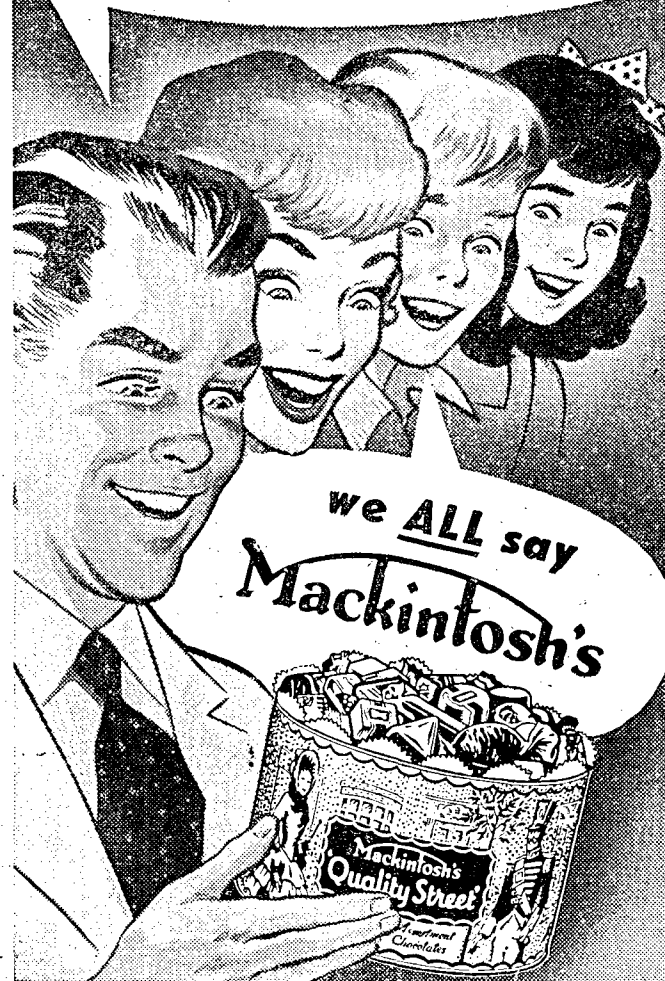
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- 3 In which year were the letters IND: IMP first omitted from British coins?
- 4 What is a catallo?
- 5 Laudable means funny, wrong, or praiseworthy?
- 6 Which three flags make up the Union Jack?
- 7 What is the title of Tibet's ruler?
- 8 What sporting event is associated with the Isle of Man?

Answers on page 12

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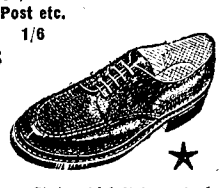
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SPORTS SHORTS

ALTHOUGH he is only 16, Peter Radley of Barking has already played water polo for the famous Plaistow United club, and for Essex in the county championship. Perhaps this is not so surprising, for his father, Charlie Radley, now one of our best-known water polo referees, formerly played for Plaistow.

DAVID SHEPPARD, former captain of Cambridge University, who scored his maiden Test century in the match against India at the Oval, will preach the sermon at a special service for cricketers to be held at St. John's Church, Highbury, London, on September 14. He is a lay preacher, and at one time considered entering the Church.

THREE seasons ago, in his first year as a regular County cricketer, Brian Close of Yorkshire achieved the coveted double of 1000 runs and 100 wickets. During the next two years his career was interrupted by Army service, but this summer he returned to the Yorkshire side and has now performed the "double" for the second time. Incidentally, he was the first player to do so this season.

JOHN TRICKETT, of Birmingham, has suddenly jumped into athletic limelight. A naval air mechanic, he set up a new Royal Navy javelin record with a throw of 189 feet, and then, representing the Combined Services against the A.A.A., beat the reigning A.A.A. champion, Michael Denley, with a throw of 196 feet 2½ inches.

ANOTHER footballing-cricketer has been added to Arsenal's already long list. He is 17-year-old Don Rossiter, who last year won an F.A. Amateur Cup medal with Walthamstow Avenue and recently had a trial as a batsman for Kent.

MRS. URSULA NEAL of Westliff decided that she would have a cycling holiday in Europe. After five weeks she returned home, having cycled 6000 miles and visited seven countries.

THE Girls' Golf Championship is being played this week at Stoke Poges, Buckinghamshire. The three strongest players—Jane Redgate (the holder), Jeannette Robertson (1950 winner and last year's finalist), and Ann Phillips (who has been reserve for England)—are all in the same half.

A GOOD kick-off to the Rugby season at Twickenham takes place on Saturday when the Harlequins meet an International XV chosen by Sir Wavell Wakefield, the old England captain. Four of Sir Wavell's team have 90 caps between them—Ken Jones and Jack Kyle, 26 each; Michel Pomathios of France, 20; and John Gwilliam, 18.

EVERY Saturday and Sunday since 1921, Mr. Len Newman, a surveyor at Friern Barnet, Middlesex, has played for Alexandra Park C.C. At 61 he still plays regularly, and recently he scored his 250th century.

MISS ELEANOR (TEACH) TENNANT, the American tennis coach who taught Maureen Connolly, American and Wimbledon champion, revealed that an anonymous benefactor is willing to pay all expenses for the training by her of a British boy or girl tennis player. Miss Tennant said that she had a short list of five, "any of whom could be a Wimbledon champion of the future."

WHEN Jack Ikin caught Manjrekar in the Test match at the Oval he became the tenth British cricketer, excluding wicket-keepers, to hold 30 or more catches in Tests. He achieved this number in 17 Tests. Walter Hammond caught 109 players in his 85 Tests.

JACK ROBERTSON, the Middlesex opening batsman, well qualifies for the title of our most consistent batsman. He recently completed his 2000 runs in a season for the seventh consecutive time, the only player to achieve this feat in post-war cricket.

CROSS-CHANNEL QUEST

Continued from page 9

jowled." Another read: "Slim build. Undersized. Very pale complexion. Small, grey eyes. Small mouth with twisted lower lip." There was more than that about each, though.

"Friends of yours?" I risked the cheeky question.

He did not answer at once, being occupied with cutting in and out of a line of big lorries strung out along the road. There was only just room between each lorry and the next for a car with acceleration and brakes like the Healey's to do this "staircasing," as I have heard it called.

"Could be," he answered, when we had flashed past the leader of the convoy and were whizzing ahead of them so fast that they seemed almost to be travelling backwards, trailers and all! "But somehow I doubt it. However, we'll know, all in good time."

"We?"

"You and Nessa and I," he said casually. "And some other people

who, for the time being, shall be nameless. And now," he added, speaking more like a schoolmaster than the Bruce Halliday I knew, "get on with your homework!"

I DID as I was told. And I was so absorbed in this new and promising line in "homework" that it came as a complete surprise to me when the Healey pulled up in the drive outside the front door of the house. We'd arrived!

"Hallo, Lance! What d'you think of the Healey?" It was Nessa hailing me from a downstairs window. "Wizard, isn't she?"

And then, as Bruce was stepping over the low door on the driver's side, she hailed him: "There's been a man on the telephone every quarter-of-an-hour since eleven o'clock this morning. I kept telling him you'd be back any minute. It's something ur—" She broke off. "There it goes again. Hurry, Bruce—I'll hold it for you!" And she vanished from the window.

To be continued



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The Children's Newspaper, September 6, 1952

Micromodels

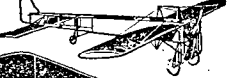
COTTON BLOSSOM



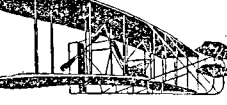
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NATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION 150th Celebrations

NATIONAL COMPETITIONS November 1952

Decorative Lettering and Essays
Scholars and Helpers
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Good Prizes

Details from:—N.S.S.U.,
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WHEN SEPTEMBER LOST 11 DAYS

Two hundred years ago this month, the people of Great Britain were whirled through 12 days in one.

By Act of Parliament, September 3, 1752, was ordered to be reckoned as September 14 by all the people, on pain of fine or imprisonment.

There were some questionings and grumbings on the part of the inhabitants of the England of George the Second, and, no doubt, the Tories were "agin it" as it was the product of the Whig government of the Pelhams. But the law was the law and so the eleven days were suppressed and September 14 followed immediately after September 2 without incident.

By this step, Great Britain had at last come into line with the other countries of Europe in the correctness of the calendar. The first serious reform of the calendar was carried out by Julius Caesar, who, in 45 B.C. reconstructed the old Roman calendar which had fallen into confusion. It was he who established the year as having 365½ days and introduced the system of the leap year every fourth year.

This Julian calendar, as it was

called, was a great achievement, but it was not quite accurate because the year is 365¼ days less eleven minutes, and the accumulation of these eleven minutes over the centuries caused some difference between the reckoned and the actual date. Between the time of Julius Caesar and the end of the 16th century, this difference had become as much as ten whole days.

The problem was finally solved in 1582 by Pope Gregory the 14th, who advanced the calendar ten days and ruled that the last year of a century should not be a leap year unless it could be divided by 400. Thus 2000 and 2400 will be leap years; 1900 was not. This Gregorian calendar, as it was called, was adopted immediately by most of the countries of Europe, but not by Great Britain until 1752, when the difference had become eleven days.

Under the same Act the legal year was made to begin on January 1, instead of March 25, or Lady Day.

An interesting relic of this old system of dating is found in the income tax year, which begins on April 6 instead of March 25, just as it did before 1752.

C N Competition No. 8

SIX WRIST-WATCHES TO BE WON!

HERE is a fascinating Heads and Feet Competition, with six wrist-watches as prizes—three for boys and three for girls.

Study the picture below and decide which feet or flappers belong to each of the ten creatures whose heads you see numbered 1-10. We also want you to name each of the animals or birds, and make a complete numbered list. For instance, the first answer is "1. Lion . . . G." You have to find the remaining nine.

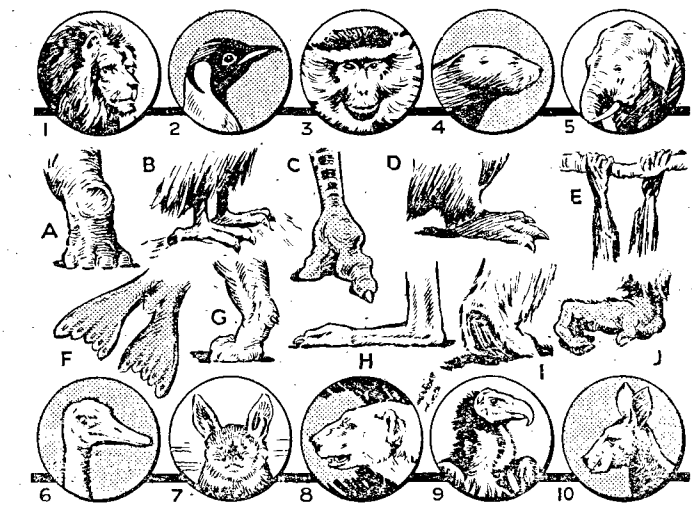
To help you, here is a complete list—not in order—of all the creatures in the puzzle:

Ostrich, Kangaroo, Lion, Monkey, Penguin, Bear, Bat, Seal, Vulture, Elephant.

Thus, you have only to say which is which and give them their correct "feet." Write your ten answers as neatly as possible on a postcard or piece of plain paper, then cut out and pin or paste to your entry the competition token (marked "C N Token") at the foot of the back page of this issue, and ask your parent or guardian to sign your completed entry as being your own written work. Post to:

C N Competition No. 8,
3, Pilgrim Street, London, E.C.4. (Comp.)

The prizes will be awarded for the neatest correct entries according to age. This competition is open to all readers under 17 in Great Britain, N. Ireland and the Channel Isles. The Editor's decision will be final.



Six different chocolates



Gooseberry Cream

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Caramel, Praline Pâté

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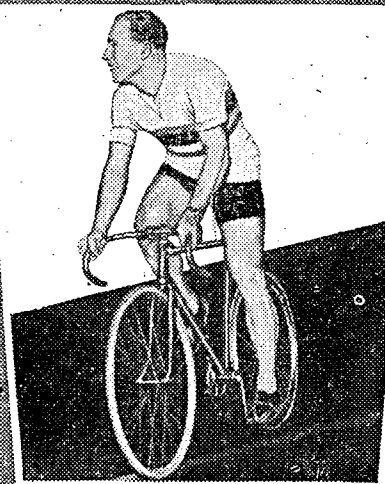
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Be

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...ride on
DUNLOP
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THE BRAN TUB

RIDDLE MY TOWN

My first is in cave but not in hill;
My second's in beak but not
in bill;
My third's in carriage and also in
cart;
My fourth is in ragged but not in
smart;
My fifth is in fine and also in fair;
My sixth is in foal but not in
mare;
My last is in flock but not in
crowd—
I follow the card and am then very
loud.

Answer next week

COUNTRYSIDE FLOWERS

ON dry banks, especially where
the soil is of chalk or sand,
clumps of sweet-smelling wild
thyme may be found. Although



small, this plant
is of vigorous
growth, the
stems being
tough and
woody, like
miniature trees.
The blossoms
grow in whorls.
Each pretty,
rose-purple
flower consists of a narrow tube,
the mouth of which is cut into
two; the upper lip has a notch in
its centre and the lower lip is cleft
in three. There are four stamens
inside the tube. The dainty ovate
leaves are dark green and glossy.

BEDTIME CORNER

Mr. Portly is lost

"THIS is fun!" said Mr. Portly
as he leapt again into the
cupboard on top of the pile of
soft toys which Ann had
stacked, and scuffled them right
and left with his paws.

"Bother you, Mr. Portly,"
cried Ann. "That's the third
time you've done that. I'll
never get my toy cupboard
cleaned with you here. You'll
have to go out." So she popped

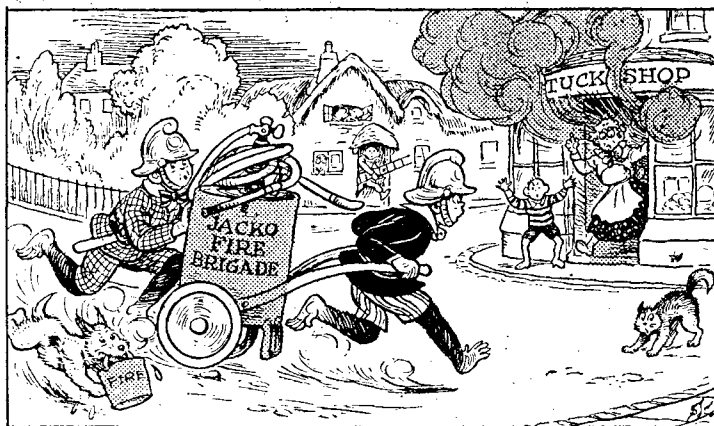
him out on to
the sloping roof
below the play-
room window.
But there was
a chilly wind
blowing, and
Mr. Portly
begged to come
back in, ex-
plaining that he
had only been
trying to help.
But Ann would
not listen.

So presently,
very huffily,
Mr. Portly
stalked off down to the garden,
vowing that he would jolly well
stay out and go adventuring.

He could not find Tinkle to
go with him, or Penny, and
Snowball had a cold and wanted
to stay in his sheltered porch.
So Mr. Portly set off on his own.

Ann was worried when he
did not come home for dinner.
She was more worried when he

JACKO AND CHIMP DASH TO THE RESCUE



"You know," mused Jacko, "there is only one fire-engine in Jackoville. Suppose there were two fires at the same time. What would happen then?" Chimp looked vague. "One would keep burning, I suppose," he answered. "It is our public duty to build another fire-engine," said Jacko. So they set to work, and by a strange chance, were soon put to the test. The tuckshop was ablaze! "Savers of the sweet, forward," cried Jacko as they hurtled down the hill. Alas! Their engine did not work without water, and they had forgotten to fill the tank! Fortunately, the other fire-engine was soon on the scene, and no real damage was done to this most important shop in town.

Double meaning

The two missing words are pronounced (and spelt) the same, but have different meanings. What are they?

THE — was marked out very neatly;
From the road, which was under repair,
Came the chug of a busy steam-roller,
A strong scent of — filled the air.

pitch, pinch

Dancing at Lancing

A CERTAIN young lady of Lanc-
ing,
Developed a passion for dancing.
From morning till night
She took keen delight,
In cavorting and hopping and
prancing.

Pigs might fly!



HOW do you know that pigs can't fly?

Have you ever seen one try?
I'm sure that if I scan the sky,
One day I'll see one way up high.

CHAIN QUIZ

Solutions to the following clues are linked, the last two letters of the first answer being the first two of the second, and so on.

1. Plant with yellow flowers; the blue dye yielded by its leaves was used by the ancient Britons to colour their bodies when going into battle.

2. Capital of S. Australia, called the Athens of the South; founded 115 years ago and named after Queen Victoria's aunt, it is notable for its fine planning.

3. Site of the most famous Greek oracle, consulted by Greek and other rulers before taking important steps such as fighting wars or founding colonies.

4. Highest range of mountains in the world; their name means "abode of snow" and is related to the Latin word "hiems" (winter); outstanding peaks are Everest and Kingchinjunga.

Answer next week

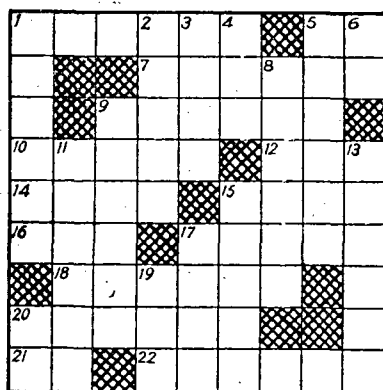
Crossword Puzzle

READING ACROSS. 1 Glass water-bottle. 5 Ourselves. 7 Extreme scarcity of food. 9 Twangs. 10 Skirmish. 12 Seed-vessel. 14 Above. 15 Transaction. 16 At this moment. 17 Chemicals. 18 Sharper. 20 Blush. 21 Roman copper coin. 22 Change direction quickly.

READING DOWN. 1 Ordinary. 2 Following. 3 Food. 4 Australian bird. 5 Not disposed of. 6 South East. 8 Mar. 9 Turned. 11 Calls up. 13 Want. 15 Site. 17 Afresh. 19 English Dialect Society. 20 Royal Academy.

Answer next week

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A Matter of chipping

"How do you create such beautiful sculpture?" asked an old lady.

"Simple," replied the great one; "I just chip away what I don't want."

WHAT AM I?

My first is a word that tells I am able,
My second is found both in tea and in table;
My third is two-thirds of a day;
My whole's a dominion. Now, what am I, pray?

Answer next week

YOUNG QUIZ—answers

- 1 An apple falling from a tree onto his head.
- 2 In Northern Rhodesia.
- 3 In 1949.
- 4 A cross between a bison and a domestic cow.
- 5 Praiseworthy.
- 6 The flags of St. George, St. Andrew, and St. Patrick.
- 7 The Dalai Lama.
- 8 Motor-cycle racing.

FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

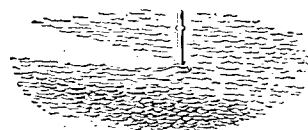
A MONSTER CATERPILLAR. Don found an enormous caterpillar beneath the snowberry bushes. Its greenish body was marked with a number of violet dots, and seven purple-brown stripes edged with yellow.

"It was about five inches long," Don told Farmer Gray.

"A Death's Head Hawk Moth Caterpillar," commented the farmer. "Sometimes they are brown instead of green, and then the dots are white instead of violet. When these caterpillars pupate, they build an earthen cocoon. It is frail, but unless broken open it protects the inmate from severe weather. Potato is the favourite food plant of these caterpillars; woody nightshade and snowberry are also popular."

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

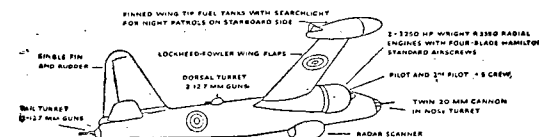
Hidden places. Redditch
Beheading. Scorn, corn
Riddle in Rhyme. Blenheim Orange
Chain Quiz. Mikado, dollar, armadillo, Longfellow



the
submarine hunt
is on!

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(tick which you require)

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

AGE.....DATE OF BIRTH.....



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CN token